

CLASH OF AMERICANS WITH VILLISTAS IS REPORTED

LEADER OF BANDIT IS LOCATED

Part of Force Fired on by U. S. Troops
Along Railroad South of Guerrero;
Carranzistas Co-operating to
Check Flight

GEN. HERRERA NOW JOINS IN PURSUIT

Sends Word Will Ship Head of Villa to
El Paso; Reported Massacre is
Ridiculed by Gavira; Supplies
Moving to Front

By United Press.
San Antonio, Tex., March 31.—American troops have clashed with the Villistas, it is reported.

After the hardest kind of marching the Americans located Villa along the railroad south of Guerrero and fired upon a portion of his force which was reported to be large in numbers.

According to Gen. Funston, reports which he believes to be thoroughly reliable but the source of which he refused to name, the Carranzistas are now co-operating with the Americans in a supreme effort to make Villa abandon his head-long flight and make a stand and fight.

Funston said his reports stated that Villa had been strongly reinforced but Funston was confident that our men under the leadership of Gen. Pershing, who is now at the front, will be able to take care of themselves isolated detachments are bound to suffer and actions may have already occurred in which the Americans were outnumbered and suffered but it is thought that the superior intelligence of the American general is certain to offset any numerical superiority of Villa's forces.

Following the engagement between the Villistas and Carranzistas at Guerrero Wednesday or Thursday, the bandits are reported to have gone south through Minaca, following the railroad southwest.

Cut Off Retreat.

By United Press.
El Paso, Tex., March 31.—Gen. Gavira announced that a column of twelve hundred cavalry under Gen. Luis Herrera left Chihuahua City Wednesday to cut off the retreat of Villa to the south.

Herrera telegraphed that he would kill Villa and ship his head to the Carranza consul at El Paso.

Gavira predicted a battle between Villistas and Herrera today or tomorrow with the possibility of the American vanguard participating.

An apparent confirmation of the report that Villa was wounded in the leg in a skirmish at Guerrero two days ago was received. Gavira ridiculed the report of the massacre of Carranzistas at Guerrero.

Report is Denied.

By United Press.
San Antonio, Tex., March 31.—The Mexican consulate here received a flat denial from Gen. Obregon, war minister in Carranza's cabinet, of the report that he had criticized the American troops. He also denied that he blamed Americans for the Columbus massacre.

Report Not Credited.

By United Press.
El Paso, Texas, March 31.—The report that Villa massacred 172 Carranzistas at Guerrero is not credited here and does not conform to other reports as to the number of men or Gen. Funston's official advice to the effect that Villa passed Guerrero Monday.

The latest reliable reports locate Villa northwest of Guerrero and going toward Durango with Col. Dodd in hot pursuit and the Carranzistas in the district about the city of Chihuahua closing in on him. Fighting is momentarily expected.

Carranza's limited permission for

the use of Mexican railways has not been taken advantage of. Provisions that were sent via Juarez three days ago remain in the yards there. Supplies to the troops continue to go via motor trucks to El Valle and thence by mule tracks and trains to the front.

Airmen Efficient.

By United Press.
Army Headquarters, Dublin, Mexico.—Defending the American army aviators, Capt. Foulis today claimed it was demonstrated as a result of their present experience in Mexico that these airmen were superior, man for man, to any others in the world. It was pointed out by the captain that the Sierra Madras mountains offer tremendous difficulties to the operation of aeroplanes.

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WILL VOTE ON MOTOR EQUIPMENT

Chief Gattis Corrects Impression that Bond
Issue for Improving Fire Department
is Contemplated; Amount Sought
is \$10,000

At the election on Tuesday of next week, the voters will be called upon, in addition to electing aldermen, to say whether or not the city of Chickasha shall contract a debt in the sum of \$10,000 for the purpose of motorizing and adding to the equipment of the fire department.

Chief Gattis, of the fire department, stated this morning that many of the voters had through some means gained an erroneous idea of this matter, thinking that the election was for the purpose of voting bonds with which to raise the money to add to the equipment and to purchase the motor trucks. Such, the chief stated, was not the case. The voters of the city will be called upon to say whether or not the city shall buy the supplies, to the amount of \$10,000 and pay for them out of the proper funds.

City Clerk Reynolds stated that, should the vote authorize the incurring of the debt, there would be approximately \$4,000 or \$5,000, almost if not half the entire amount, available by the time the equipment arrives to pay down upon it.

In speaking further upon the matter, Chief Gattis said that, should the equipment of the fire department remain as it is, it will become necessary at once to purchase at least one and possibly two teams of horses to supplement those which have outlived their usefulness as fire horses. On the other hand, the chief stated, with the motorizing of the department two teams of those now in use may be dispensed with, thereby materially reducing the initial cost of the new equipment.

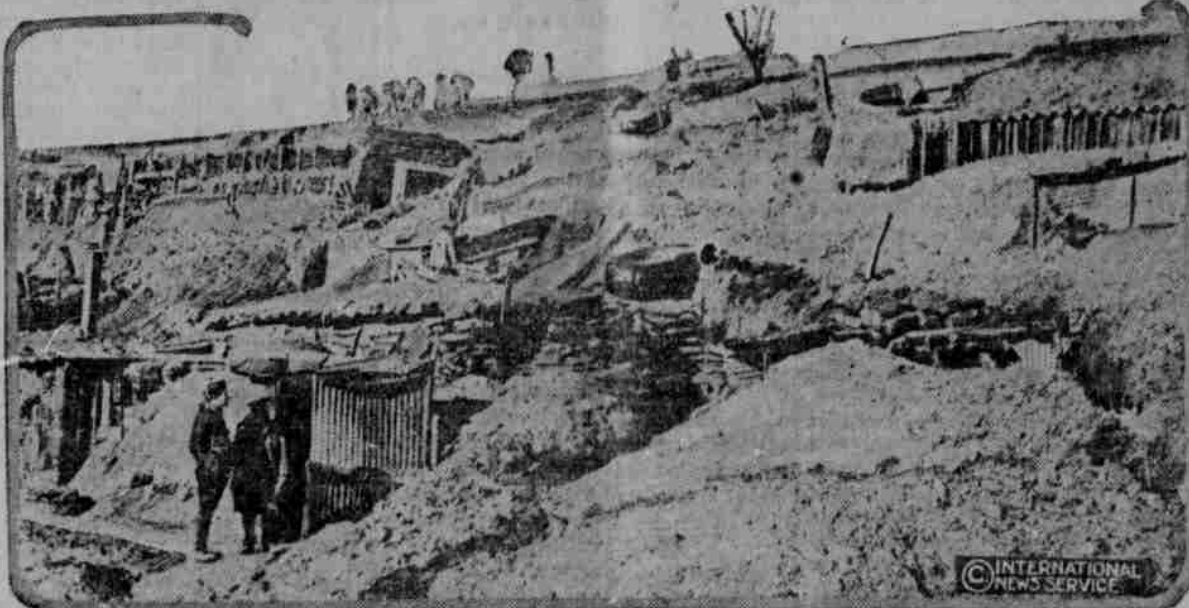
MAYOR TO ASK COUNTY TO ASSIST

Mayor O. Coffman stated this morning that the bridge and streets committee would visit the Fourth street bridge, in company with the street commissioner, either this afternoon or tomorrow morning, for the purpose of inspecting the same and taking action, as per the instructions of the city council at its last meeting.

Mr. Coffman stated that the bridge was in an unsafe condition and that the chances were that the inspection would result in the bridge being closed against travel until it may be repaired or replaced with a new structure.

Mr. Coffman stated further that there was more travel over the Fourth street bridge than there was across all other bridges combined, within the limits of Chickasha. All the farmers coming to the city from north and east for miles around, cross the Fourth

FIRST LINE TRENCHES THAT ARE COMPARATIVELY SAFE



These are new first line trenches of the allies in northern France that are so well protected by the ridge in front of them that the soldiers are in little immediate danger except from plunging shells.

BIG MEET HELD BY MASON

Eastern Star Ladies Serve Elaborate Banquet; Past Master Gilmore Gives Address; Visitors from Many Towns in Attendance

Following an elaborate banquet, served by the ladies of the Eastern Star in the Masonic hall, Chickasha lodge met in called convocation last evening for the purpose of exemplifying the Master Mason's degree.

About one hundred and fifty Masons were in attendance and the evening was thoroughly enjoyed by all. The social session was featured by an address by Past Master Jeff Gilmore, formerly of Chickasha but now of East St. Louis, Ill., and by well chosen and timely remarks from a number of visiting brethren present.

The records of the secretary show one hundred and ten members of Chickasha lodge were present, while the visitor's record bears the following names of members of other lodges who participated in the evening's convocation: John Neal, M. A. Linn, and George Neal, Terrell; John White, Anadarko; W. N. Stringfield, J. L. Smith and Jimmie Jones, Verden; R. A. Thomas, Alex; Joe Yowman, C. W. Clay and R. E. McIntosh, Hartshorn; Samuel Downing, Parkville, Mo.; J. W. Angel and Charles Brock, Pocasset; J. G. Bryan, Amber; H. M. Evans and J. S. Earler, Rush Springs; F. O. Clark, Diamond; W. B. Savers, R. Yates, F. Kimble, J. M. Headrick, J. F. Hill, Ford, Floyd Kimble, A. E. Henning, H. L. McCracken, R. W. Tegarden, S. O. Giffelster, F. L. Love, J. R. Osborne, V. N. Homby and R. L. Castleman, Tuttle; J. L. Matthews, Conway, Iowa.

The banquet served by the ladies of the Eastern Star was a most enjoyable one and was thoroughly enjoyed and appreciated by many. No charges were made but a free will offering was collected at which \$77 was realized. This sum will be applied upon the purchase of a monument to be erected in that portion of the Odd Fellow's cemetery set aside by Chickasha Masonic lodge for the burial of members of the fraternity whom death has overtaken while they were in straitened circumstances.

street bridge; the greater portion of the cotton brought to the Chickasha gins and compress, of the Grady county crops, comes in over the Fourth street bridge. This being the case, Mr. Coffman stated that it was his intention to recommend that the city replace the present unsafe structure with a concrete bridge, provided the county commissioners will join hands with the city in the matter of defrayment of the costs of the same.

"I shall," said Mr. Coffman, "take the matter up with the commissioners when they meet Monday of next week, and see if they cannot be made to see that the entire county is vitally interested in the building of the Fourth street bridge."

COFFMAN STRONG FOR GOOD ROADS

"I believe in good roads and lots of them," said Mayor Coffman this morning, "and I am going to do my part toward helping the good work along if I have to send every hanger-on and loafer in Chickasha to the county road gang."

Following the above remarks the mayor hung a fine of \$50 on to Frank James, alias "Baby Slim," alias "Honey Boy," alias just plain, everyday, no account negro, "Baby Slim," etc., was charged with fighting and otherwise demeaning himself in a way and manner unbecoming a hyphenite of any persuasion.

John McMann was next called to bat and the mayor put a swift one over which called for \$25, and reminded the defendant that he still owed the city of Chickasha a little matter of \$50 on a fine which he had jumped along in January. "That will give the county about \$75 worth of your valuable society," said the mayor. "You two worthies will be turned over to the county Monday morning, so be ready to grab a shovel and do some good, honest road work at that time. Lock 'em up, Sergeant Looney."

COURT TO ADJOURN

Judge Linn is winding up the called term of district court and may possibly adjourn for the term this afternoon. All jury matters having been disposed of, a number of cases having been settled out of court, Judge Linn discharged the jury at 10 o'clock and has devoted the remainder of the day in disposing of such non-jury matters as remain on the docket, hearing motions, etc.

In the matter of A. H. English vs. Rock Island Railway company, on trial yesterday, the jury brought in a verdict during the course of the afternoon, finding for the defendant in the sum of \$90.

In the matter of Nona Kell vs. Will White, called for trial this morning, a jury was empaneled but later the court sustained the demurrer of the defendant's attorney and ordered the dismissal of the suit.

COUNTY OFFICIALS ARE PREPARING REPORTS

Every official of Grady county is busy today preparing his report for the month of March to be submitted to the board of commissioners on Monday when the board meets in regular session. The reports will include those from the treasurer, from the superintendent of county schools, from the court clerk, from the register of deeds department of the county clerk's office and from the office of the county clerk.

WEATHER FORECAST.

For Oklahoma.
Tonight fair, colder; freezing temperature probably.
Saturday, fair.
Local Temperature.
During 24 hours ending 8 a. m. today:
Maximum, 52; minimum, 45.

STUDENTS SAY SEC'Y IS NEEDED

Girls Tell Why Trained Worker is Required to Make Y. W. C. A. Successful as Social Service Adjunct to Oklahoma College for Women

"Do you need a Y. W. C. A. student secretary?" This question, asked of a number of young women who are attending the O. C. W., brought forth but one reply, "yes," and they were very emphatic in their answers. The students are now engaged in a campaign to raise funds to pay the salary of a trained worker who will devote her entire time to promoting the Y. W. C. A. work. Some of them expressed their views on the subject as follows:

"We need a Y. W. C. A. student secretary at O. C. W., first of all, because this is not a denominational school and no church in any way responsible for the spiritual growth of the Y. W. C. A. here. We need some one to keep a good, strong organization going and a student secretary would be competent in every way. A local secretary, no matter how much her heart might be in the work, hasn't the time to devote to it."

"Therefore, a student secretary would build up a successful Y. W. C. A., create worlds of enthusiasm among its members, and keep it a strong live organization."—Miss Bess Burwell.

"A student secretary for any Y. W. C. A. is, first of all, a 'Booster,' a girl with 'pep' enough to interest every other girl in the Y. W. work, both social and religious. Do we need such a person in O. C. W. next year? To use a slang expression, 'well I should say we do.' No other form of our college activities needs encouragement and support more than the Y. W. C. A. There is, in every organization, more or less work to be done. Some one must be at the head of the order to see that the work is carried on. This duty should not fall on the president of the Y. W. alone, because she is herself a student and has much personal work; therefore, we must have a student secretary. She can do all the hundred-and-one little things that must be done that would otherwise devolve upon the president. She can keep us in touch with outside happenings in other like organizations, she can attend to social service work here in our own college, she can increase the Y. W. membership, and, what is far more important, she can devise ways to make Y. W. meetings attractive."—Ethna McCarthy.

"O. C. W. does need and must have a Y. W. C. A. secretary. We need her for the following reasons: to bring us new members, to waken up and interest the old members, and to manage the financial part.

"If we could have a Y. W. C. A. secretary, she would make everything about the work interesting to us, the programs would be delightful and everyone would want to join. She would give each student something definite to do and in this way have more active and 'willing-to-do' members. She would manage the finan-

cial side of the organization and help and show us how to make money. She would interest us in the great Christian movement and would make our ideals stronger and higher. She would help us to find our one purpose in life and would help make us into high minded, pure and cultivated young women. What need could be greater?"—Mary Thompson.

"A Y. W. C. A. student secretary is needed in the O. C. W. next year to bring the work nearer to the workers in that organization. The members would understand and know more about it they would become more interested and earnest workers. The girls would feel that they were more a part of the organization, and that that part was localized and important in itself."—Mattie Hart.

UNCLE SAM WILL AID IN MARKETING

Field Men Leave Washington to Start News Service; Will Collect and Report Information in Regard to Perishable Crops

Washington, D. C., March 31.—Field men of the office of Markets and Rural Organization have left Washington to inaugurate the department of agriculture's market news service for perishable crops this year. Branch offices have been established in New York, Boston, Philadelphia, Buffalo, Pittsburgh, Chicago, St. Louis, Minneapolis and Kansas City, to collect and distribute information in regard to marketing conditions. Other men are stationed in the producing sections in Florida, Louisiana and Texas, where onions, tomatoes and strawberries are already being shipped in carload lots to the big markets.

By collecting in this way information concerning conditions in producing districts and marketing centers, the Market News Service of the department of agriculture is designed to aid both shippers of and dealers in perishable crops. The information collected is sent out free by telegraph to all those who are sufficiently interested to pay the telegraph charges and by mail to those who do not care to incur this expense, but have a good reason for wishing the reports. Each of the field men in the marketing and producing centers acts as a distributor of this information and, in addition, it is sent of direct from Washington.

These reports will deal with carload shipments, receipts and general conditions for the onion, tomato and strawberry crops. Other crops will follow as the season advances, the service being designed to include a total of 15 crops altogether. In the opinion of marketing specialists this work, which was begun last year, has already demonstrated its value in preventing the glutting of markets, in securing more profitable distribution for perishable crops, and in avoiding delay and waste through unnecessary diversions of carload shipments en route.

COUNSEL OF CABINET IS GO SLOW

By United Press.

Washington, March 31.—At the cabinet meeting called to consider the international situation, it is expected that the members will counsel deliberation, in view of the uncertainty as to the cause of the Sussex disaster. It is understood that Germany claims that the Sussex was mined and it is claimed that steamer Eagle Point was in the service of the British admiralty. Reports say the steamer Englishman was attempting to escape when it was attacked. The Manchester engineer has not yet reported.

VILLAGE IS TAKEN BY GERMANS

British Reports Say Teutons Sustain 20000 Casualties in Effort to Take Malancourt; Preparing for Another Onslaught on French

DEFENSES ON BOTH SIDES OF TOWN FALL

Berlin Reports 200 Prisoners Captured in Final Assault; French Still Holding Highways Leading to Bethincourt and Esnes

By United Press.

Berlin, March 31.—It was officially announced today that the Germans stormed and captured Malancourt and the defenses on both sides of the town, taking three hundred prisoners.

By United Press.

Paris, March 31.—The official statement issued by the war office this afternoon states the French troops evacuated the ruined village of Malancourt, German artillery having made the position untenable.

It was stated, however, that the French still hold the highways leading to Bethincourt and Esnes and by a fierce artillery fire are preventing the Germans from occupying the evacuated position.

Munition Workers Strike

By United Press.

London, March 31.—With two thousand workers in munition factories on a strike at Clyde, Glasgow reports say the labor troubles threatened to spread.

The government is directing serious attention to the Liverpool dock strike, where the men rejected arbitration.

By United Press.

London, March 31.—Several battalions of Germans were wiped out in their effort to capture Malancourt and they were forced by the French to halt after they had sustained twenty thousand casualties, according to reports received here today.

Within the next forty-eight hours it is expected that the German crown prince will throw new forces simultaneously against Malancourt and the Avocourt wood. Artillery preparations for the contemplated action continue.

French Defender of Verdun

(By William Philip Sims, United Press Staff Correspondent.)

Paris, March 31.—(By mail.)—General Potain, the defender of Verdun and now in supreme command in that sector, after rising from a colonelship in 19 months, thinks no more of climbing trees, sleeping in a hayloft or wading through ice and water than he does of eating breakfast in the morning.

The latest hero of the French army refused to be a hero. He insists upon remaining a plain soldier. He usually makes his headquarters in one of the poorest houses of a war-zone village and instead of the usual flag, sentries and buzzing motor cars about his front door he stations a couple of men in citizen's clothes to keep off visitors, and lets it go at that.

Though 59 years old, he skips the rope 10 minutes every morning before breakfast. A shave and bath add to his appetite and so his day gets off with a flying start. He is willing himself to do anything he asks the humble private in his command to do. If maneuvers in the rain and mud are necessary, he often puts himself at the head of some company and walks with them bareheaded and minus waterproofs.

Officers desiring a place on his staff can't have the job simply because they are chiefs; they must be able to do rough service, ride a bicycle, run a mile in record time, eat plain food and work any and all sorts of hours.

One of the General's favorite ways

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